



**NIFA Veterinary Medicine
Loan Repayment Program (VMLRP)**

National Institute of Food and Agriculture
US Department of Agriculture
OMB Information Collection
Approval No.: 0524-0046
Expiration Date: 8/31/2013

Veterinarian Shortage Situation Nomination Form

To be completed by the chief State or Insular Area Animal Health Official or his/her designee

Veterinary Medicine Loan Repayment Program (VMLRP)

Nomination of Veterinarian Shortage Situations for the Veterinary Medicine Loan Repayment Program (VMLRP) Authorized Under the National Veterinary Medical Service Act (NVMSA)

Note: Please submit one separate nomination form for each position. See solicitation for number of nominations permitted for your state or insular area.

Veterinary Shortage ID Code: SC111

Location of Veterinary Shortage Area for this Nomination

Note: If this nomination is for a public practice position, please provide the location of the home office or the center of service area.

Location of Veterinary Shortage: SC Piedmont - 9 contiguous counties (Abbeville, Edgefield, Fairfield, Greenwood, Laurens, McCormick, Newberry, Saluda, & Union)

(e.g., County, State/Insular Area)

Center of Service Area or
Location of Position: Intersection of SC-34 & Spearman Rd, Silverstreet, SC 29145

(e.g., Address or Cross Street, Town/City, and Zip Code)

Type of Veterinary Practice Area/Discipline/Specialty

☐ Type I Shortage: Private Practice

Food Animal Medicine (at least 80 percent time)

Please select **one or more** specialties requested for this position:

- ☐ Beef Cattle
- ☐ Dairy Cattle
- ☐ Swine
- ☐ Poultry
- ☐ Small Ruminant
- ☐ Other _____

☒ Type II Shortage: Private Practice – Rural Area

Food Animal Medicine (at least 30 percent time)

Please select **one or more** specialties requested for this position:

- ☒ Beef Cattle
- ☒ Dairy Cattle
- ☐ Swine
- ☐ Poultry
- ☒ Small Ruminant
- ☐ Other : _____

☐ Type III Shortage: Public Practice (at least 49 percent time*)

Employer: _____ Position Title: _____

Please select **one or more** specialty/disciplinary areas.

- ☐ Food Safety
- ☐ Public Health
- ☐ Epidemiology
- ☐ Other: _____

Please describe the objectives of a veterinarian meeting this shortage situation as well as being located in the community, area, state/insular area, or position requested above (limit your response to 200 words or less).

The objectives of a veterinarian meeting this shortage situation are to provide food animal veterinary services for cattle and small ruminants in Abbeville, Edgefield, Fairfield, Greenwood, Laurens, McCormick, Newberry, Saluda, & Union counties at 50% minimum time allocation. This area is home to over 122,000 cows and calves according to 2007 NASS data including the #1 dairy county in the State, Newberry. Each of these counties have fewer than 50,000 rural not in place population according to the 2000 Census. Eight have fewer than 25,000 with six of those at less than 17,000. Using AVMA data adjusted for percent practice on cows & small ruminants, and adjusting based on State Veterinarian's personal knowledge (non-AVMA veterinarians), veterinarians serving cattle and small ruminants in this area total 5.0 equivalent. Using a figure of at least one veterinarian per 20,000 cows, a shortage is evident without even considering the growing small ruminant numbers in the area (mostly meat & dairy goats). The majority of the veterinarians making up the 5.0 are over fifty years of age.

Please describe the activities of a veterinarian meeting this shortage situation and being located in the community, area, state/insular area, or position requested above (limit your response to 200 words or less).

The activities of a veterinarian meeting this shortage situation would include providing dairy and beef production medicine services in the area designated and also providing at least sick animal services and herd health and biosecurity advice to small ruminant producers in the area. It is believed this veterinarian should be able to work at least 50% time on these activities within this rural area. The veterinarian could join a mixed practice in the area or attempt to set up as a solo practitioner. Opportunities for both exist. This veterinarian could supplement with food animal work outside of the area, equine, or companion animal work within the area to obtain enough work to be economically viable. It is not believed possible at this time to be economically viable performing 80% food supply veterinary services within this rural area only. There are veterinarians in the area that would likely be willing to share call and/or offer a new graduate assistance even if this veterinarian was not officially affiliated with their practice.

Please describe any past efforts to recruit and retain a veterinarian in the shortage situation identified above (limit your response to 100 words or less).

The veterinarians that have historically served food animal producers in this area are advancing in age. One new practice opened within the past five years when an experienced veterinarian moved back into the area. This practice needed to hire an associate within three years but found it difficult to recruit. Practice owner reported debt load of new graduates he attempted to recruit was a major stumbling block. Retention of existing associate and certainly any new hires would be very positively impacted by eligibility for VMLRP according to this practitioner. The State Veterinarian agrees with this assessment.

Please describe the risk of this veterinarian position not being secured or retained. Include the risk(s) to the production of a safe and wholesome food supply and to animal, human, and environmental health not only in the community but in the region, state/insular area, nation, and/or international community (limit your response to 250 words or less).

The area specified for this veterinarian shortage situation contains over 30% of the beef cows and 40% of the dairy cows in the state of SC. The production of a safe, wholesome, local food supply for SC is directly impacted by the ability of the producers in this area to obtain competent and readily available veterinary services. The most recent new graduate to join a practice in this area and offer food supply veterinary services indicates that student loan debt payments are a significant hurdle to overcome if she is to remain in this area. Considering the age of some of the existing practitioners in this area, it is critical for SC to help establish some younger veterinarians in this area so that availability of food supply veterinary services will not be interrupted in the future. In addition, there is a significant void of veterinarians willing to work on small ruminants currently as most food animal practitioners are too busy to take on new clients in this area. A shift in the ethnic demographics is causing a demand for and production of meat goats. There are purebred dairy and beef operations in this area that market their animals' genetics all over the United States and in several foreign countries.

Please indicate whether you consider this situation/position a candidate for a "service in emergency" agreement (limit your response to 100 words or less). Please see solicitations for additional information regarding the obligation of participants who enter into the "Service in Emergency" agreement.

Not required at this time according to instructions.

Authorized State or Insular Area Animal Health Official or designee:

Name: Boyd H. Parr

Title: SC State Veterinarian

Organization: Clemson University Livestock Poultry Health
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Email: 803-788-2260 x 231

Telephone Number: (Area code required)

Public reporting for OMB control number 0524-0046 is estimated to average two hours, including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. An agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information, unless it displays a current valid OMB control number. Send comments regarding this burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing this burden to NIFA, OEP, 800 9th St. SW, Washington, DC 20024, Attention Policy Section. Do not return the completed form to this address.

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